<u>**In the Specification**</u>:

Replace the original abstract with the following substitute abstract:

ABSTRACT

A recursive table-lookup decoding method for decoding a convolutional block code by approximating the well-known MAP, LOG-MAP, APP and BCJR decoding algorithms to obtain approximations for the a-posteriori estimates and the extrinsic estimates for the block of information bits; and a method of decoding a turbo code or a parallel-concatenated convolutional code (PCCC) to obtain a block of decoded bits for the information bits. The turbo decoding method utilizes the recursive table-lookup decoding method to decode the constituent convolutional sub-codes of a turbo code or PCCC. Hardware implementations may not require a processor.

Make the following changes to the specification:

On page 1, second paragraph:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION: U.S. Provisional Application for patent 60/391,092, filed 06/24/2002, which is hereby incorporated by reference. Applicant claims priority pursuant to 35 U.S.C. Par. 119(e)(i).

~~STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT~~
~~Not Applicable.~~

~~REFERENCE TO SEQUENCE LISTING~~
~~Not Applicable.~~